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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Aleksei MIKHAILOV and
Wieland HILL

Group Art Unit: **2828**

Serial No: **10/526,217**

Examiner: **Patrick Stafford**

Filed : **March 1, 2005**

For : **SEMICONDUCTOR LASER DEVICE**

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED OCTOBER 2, 2007
REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the refusal of claims 1-4, 9 and 10 under 35 USC 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,773,345 (Ota) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,240,116 (Lang et al).

Ota describes a diffraction grating, which reflects a part of the laser light back into the resonator. The diffraction grating (119) disclosed in Ota (see Figure 24) has a plurality of stepped reflecting surfaces. This diffraction grating (119) has many more reflecting surfaces than emitters in the semiconductor laser. Therefore, the light of one emitter will be reflected by many more than one reflecting surface. A diffraction grating, as disclosed in Ota, always has a plurality of identical structures to deflect light by interference. It is clear that one skilled in the art would never replace a reflecting mirror by a diffraction grating because the diffraction grating always selects a specific wavelength. The diffraction grating, depicted by numeral 119, in Ota, has a specific wavelength that is reflected back into the semiconductor laser to let this laser emit solely this specific wavelength. This means that the grating, numeral 119, is more or